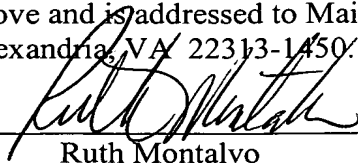




EXPRESS MAIL mailing label No. **EV 304 055 691** US Date of Deposit **January 2, 2004**

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Ruth Montalvo


Date

Docket No.:GK-HEF-964/500639.20031

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bernhard Duelli et al

Serial No. 10/607,621

Confirmation No.: 8023

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: REGULATING VACUUM VALVE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to receipt of a first office action, please amend the above-identified application
as follows: